

# St Mary's School, Mosgiel Newsletter



**Mission Statement—St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated to the provision of the highest quality primary education with a special emphasis of Catholic values and attitudes.**

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**Term 1 Week 7**

**15th March 2011**

62 Church Street, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Mary's School,

On Friday I was just settling down for my weekly dose of humour by watching the Graham Norton show. However when I turned on the T.V. I wasn't greeted by scenes of humour but rather by the scenes of devastation of the earthquake and Tsunami that was happening in Japan.

As the extent of this devastating event transpired, we watched open mouthed at the scale of devastation. Visions of seven metre high walls of water travelling at 800 kilometers per hour, cars, trucks, and boats thrown around like match box toys and fire burning with such heat all that the firemen could do was water down the surrounding buildings in a vain attempt to stop the fire spreading. This was before there had been a mention of nuclear power stations and their cores melting down.

After the devastation that had been inflicted to Christchurch, we as a nation, can sympathise with the Japanese people as they battle these cataclysmic events. The loss of life will be severe. As Christians we need to remember the people of Japan in our prayers but also to keep in the forefront of our mind that most important of our schools Mercy Values -'Compassion'.

Have a happy and safe week.  
Mike Brosnahan

## Steve Brown from Otago Cricket Teaching Cricket Skills in Rooms 5 & 6



# Our Vision : Confident, reflective, risk-taking, lifelong learners in a Catholic School.

## PTA News ...

### PTA AGM –Reminder

**This Thursday Night 17th March 7pm**, in the school foyer.

It's not all meeting. We have a Guest speaker Dave Young to talk to parents about how to use computers in education at home—he has some great website addresses for children and parents to use. Then a cup of tea and light supper, and then the meeting. Everyone is welcome, come to an informative and fun evening. We hope to see as many parents as possible come and support the PTA & our guest speaker.

### Entertainment Books Are Back!

If you would like to get a jump start on your purchase of a book you can order one through the school now and get a free page of vouchers to use now! Contact Jacqui Dodson 489 1264 if you are interested.

### Altar Servers—Sunday 20th March

Quintin Petre, Lewis Middleton, Ryan Hanrahan.

### Condolences

As a school community we offer our heart felt condolences to the Hall family on the loss of a Grandfather, father and father in law. We will remember you in our thoughts and prayers.

### Lunches

**Monday to Thursday**—Smart Lunches are available, two sizes \$3 or \$4, includes sandwiches, fruit & a biscuit or muffin.

On **Wednesday** an option of a hot lunch is also available these are all \$4, choice of Macaroni Cheese, Spaghetti Bolognaise or Shepherds Pie. Please put correct money in an envelope with your name and order.

**Friday** –Monte Carlo Milk Bar supply lunches —list available at the school office.

### National Day of Mourning—Friday 18th March

Friday is to be a National Day of Mourning where we remember all of those people who suffered in the recent Christchurch Earthquake.

A service is to be held at 10am at ANZAC Park, Gordon Road, Mosgiel. Representatives from our school will attend this.

### A thought for the week...

To praise is an investment in happiness.  
George M. Adams

## Looking Ahead Term 1

### **March**

16th Room 7 Rafting Trip  
17th PTA AGM 7pm  
21st Anniversary Day—school closed  
25th Room 6 Assembly with Room 4 item.  
1st April-Teacher Only Day—school closed

### **Teacher Only Day**

The Board of Trustees has given permission for the school to be closed on Friday 1st April to enable the staff to attend the **Catholic Schools' Gathering Day** in Gore. This day is held every three years (it was last held in 2008) and it enables all of the teachers from the Catholic Schools in our Diocese to come together for a special day of spiritual guidance and in-service training.

### **Uniform**

As we are over half way through the first term and are beginning that transition from summer to winter sports it is a good time to give a reminder about our schools uniform.

Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed in the correct uniform, including their footwear (Black or Brown leather shoes). Also please remember that for sporting purposes especially, the idea of a uniform is that everyone should be dressed the same—bright coloured shorts or a long sleeved top worn under a short sleeved top are not acceptable.

### **From our Uniform Policy: Sports Uniform**

Shorts Navy Drill Shorts style 6937 available from Postie Plus.

St Mary's School sports shirt is supplied, children are given a sports shirt for school sports activities, and these are to be returned at the end of the year.

### **ICAS Examinations 2011**

If you are interested in your child/ren being involved in any of the 2011 ICAS examinations from the University of New South Wales please come and see Mrs Baines by Thursday **17<sup>th</sup> of March** for details. The subjects available are Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling & Writing. Children must be Year 4 or older and there is a cost of \$7.50 per child for each examination.

### **Mathematics Achievement Challenge**

If your child is Year 5 or older and is keen on maths you may want them to take part in the Mathematics Achievement Challenge. This is a challenge designed to extend students in their maths learning. To find out more visit their website: [maths.org.nz](http://maths.org.nz). If you decide you do want your child to be involved get them to come and see Mrs Baines, or leave your child's name at the school office.